



IN THIS ISSUE:

- Letter from Chairman Darrell Fleck
- Tentative 2010 Trip Schedule
- Summer 2009 Trip Pictures
- 5K success!

Board of Directors:

Darrell Fleck *Chairman*

Scott Perry *Secretary*

Sam Erickson *Treasurer*

David Campbell

Linda Johansen

Joe Mitchell

Karen Mitchell

Rick Mueller

Dave Ruckman

Our Mission

The mission of Adopt-a-Village International (AaVI) is to partner with strategic leaders in developing countries to provide sustainable improvements in the basic human needs of impoverished villages. We accomplish this by providing a hand up, not a hand out, to break the cycle of poverty.

Letter from the Chairman

As we enter the last quarter of 2009, and my last quarter in the role of Board Chairman of AaVI, I thought it would make sense to take time and reflect on the past two years. In January 2008, the board of directors decided to become an all-volunteer organization, truly leveraging the dollars that our supporters have entrusted with AaVI.

In 2008, we raised just over \$109,000, and provided almost \$400,000 in services and projects in Peru and Ecuador, due to all of the hours, service and products donated by our many wonderful volunteers and the many who donate from ten to many thousands of dollars to AaVI. In the first six months of 2009, we have raised over \$100,000, coming close to matching the entire year for 2008! Many thanks to all of you, and thanks for the continued support from a number of Rotary clubs throughout the U.S.!

This year we have had two high school groups go on trips, one to Ecuador, and one to Peru. We continue to work with the Judith Lombeida Medical Foundation which has completed two trips to Ecuador this year. We are close to finalizing details with CIMAS in Ecuador, where we will be opening up a dental clinic, staffed by Ecuadorian-trained dentists. It will be visited four times per year by U.S.-based dentists who will be performing higher level dental cases, while training the local dentists.

2009 started off with a bang, as AaVI received a \$40,000 grant from Rotary to provide fresh water to over a dozen rural schools in Ecuador. Along with fresh water, toilet and shower facilities will be installed. Tied in with sanitation and hygiene training, this will dramatically change the lives of the children in our adopted villages. I am thrilled to report that this project is almost completed. Above is a picture from one of the schools where we built the new facilities.

As we wind down 2009, please keep us in mind to join in on a trip, volunteer some time, and or to make a year end donation to support our projects for 2010. Thanks to all of you for having allowed me to lead this truly great organization for the last two years.

P.O. Box 26599, Colorado Springs, CO 80936 719-492-8736
www.adoptavillageinternational.org

~Darrell Fleck, *Chairman*

(To be removed from our mailing list, please email info@adoptavillageinternational.org)

Tentative 2010 Trip Schedule

Keep up with any changes, find out more about our trips and complete a application to join us on our website!

<http://www.adoptavillageinternational.org/volunteers1.html>

Date	Purpose	Location
January 21 - 29	Amazon Clinical Visit	Loreto, Peru
February 2 - 10	Amazon Clinical Visit	Loreto, Peru
March 5 - 16	Rotaract Construction	Chone, Ecuador
March 15 - 30	Ecuador Clinical Visit	Mountain Communities, Ecuador
April 12 - 19	Project Completion/ Dedication	Santo Domingo, Calamaca, Cananvalle, Ecuador
June 7 - 20	Amazon Clinic - Doherty H.S.	Loreto, Peru
July 23 - August 1	Construction / Social Center	San Luis de Pambil, Ecuador
August 2 - 11	Construction / Leadership Academy	Riobamba, Ecuador
September 27 – October 4	Dental Clinical Visit	Pedro Moncayo, Ecuador
October 8 -17	Reality Tour / Planning Visit Rotaract Construction Amazon Clinical Visit	Loreto, Peru

Interested in Donating or Volunteering?

One of the best ways to contribute is to share your time and talents. Volunteers come from all different age groups and backgrounds. Consider joining an Adopt-a-Village International medical, dental, or reality trip, and help give a hand up to a community in need. Please visit our website (www.adoptavillageinternational.org) to see an updated schedule of planned trips and learn more about AaVI and how you can help change someone's life, including your own.





Happy Kids, no Matter what the Circumstances are

The most lasting image from Ecuador, despite the beautiful waterfalls, the jungle frogs, the colorful dancers, the scenic, lush overlooks, and the dusty, weed-covered soccer fields, is the children from the school we painted. They seemed to embody the entire Ecuadorian culture: so bright-eyed and rosy-cheeked, full of life, energy, and spirit. When we arrived at the school, a flood of children rushed to the door of our bus. There was no way to doubt their sheer excitement for our arrival as they shook our hands and said "buenos dias" over and over. Even the clothes they wore added to the vibrant atmosphere, with rubber boots, Santa hats, and colorful ponchos. Holding their hands, seeing them giggle, hugging goodbye, these are things I will remember for the rest of my life.

Mari, Manitou Springs High School Ecuador trip

Focus

This picture is from our second day of clinics where I really felt like pretty much everyone had the chance to interact with the kids. Even though we had a language barrier to deal with, I could tell that the kids just wanted to be near us and connect with us however they could. We soon discovered their fascination with our cameras and after almost every picture they would come running to see it and name off everyone they knew. In this photo Aaron was showing them pictures and was just swarmed by all the kids. You know that not all of them could see his camera but they came just so they could be close and in contact with everyone else. They were so accepting of us and most of them didn't even know our names.

Bailey, Doherty High School Peru trip





Adopt-a-Village International
P.O. Box 26599,
Colorado Springs, CO 80936

A Great Race in a Great Park

The first annual 5K/10K race took place at Palmer Park on a beautiful May morning. The proceeds from the race helped purchase supplies for the medical trip that Doherty High School Spanish students took to Peru in June.

Nearly 200 participants of all ages and abilities came out to run for a great cause. There was a children's run for the youngsters and a much harder, longer, grueling course for those looking for a challenge. The race began on level ground but very quickly gained elevation, snaking through Palmer Park, crossing the plateau and returning to the starting area.

At the finish line, times were recorded, awards were handed out to top finishers, and massage therapists were on hand to ease tired legs. The atmosphere was fun, and with the help from All American Sports, Indigo Joe's Sports Pub and Restaurant, Froots, and Wahoo's Fish Tacos, just over \$1,200 was raised.

If you missed out on the race this year, no need to worry, plans are being made for next year's race. Hope to see you out there!

